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(57) Abstract: Described is a novel marker protein associated with epithelial tumors, e.g., ovarian, mammary, stomach, kidney, thyroid and lung carcinomas, Dropl, a dystrophin-related protein as well as a nucleic acid molecule encoding Dropl. Furthermore, various diagnostic and therapeutic uses based on the finding that the expression of Dropl is downregulated in epithelial tumors are described.

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